

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.]

Societies and Branches in the Union 561.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Causes of Industrial Unrest: The Women's Standpoint. By M. Meredith	222
Reviews. "The Englishwoman," and "Margaret of Scotland and the Dauphin Louis"	223
The Housing Problem and Industrial Unrest. By I. B. O'Malley	224
After the War Problems (One of them). Contributed by the Women's Industrial Council	225
Some Problems of Reconstruction	225
Notes from Headquarters	226
N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals	226
What Some of Our Societies are Doing	227

[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions
expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

The Representation of the People Bill.

The Corn Production Bill has successfully passed its Third Reading, and the House of Commons is now resuming its discussion of the Representation of the People Bill. We hope to have some Parliamentary news to report next week.

Irish Women Suffragists.

On August 1st there was a meeting of the Joint Standing Committee of Irish Suffrage Societies, which includes the Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, the Irishwomen's Reform League, the Catholic League for Women's Suffrage, and the Belfast Suffrage Society. These Societies agreed to ask Sir Horace Plunkett, Chairman of the Irish Convention, to receive a deputation which will urge the co-option of a woman to the Convention. The Convention cannot increase its membership, but owing to the refusal of the Sinn Feiners and the Dublin Trades Council to join in it, there are fifteen vacancies. We earnestly hope that at least one of these empty places may be filled by a woman. It seems a small thing to grant to the patriotic and public-spirited women of Ireland. English and Scottish Suffragists will watch the situation with the warmest sympathy and the keenest interest.

Increased Wages for Women Munition Workers.

Advances have been announced by the Ministry of Munitions in the wages of all women and girls employed on munition work in controlled establishments, and in the uncontrolled establishments to which orders of the Ministry regulating women's wages have already been applied. Women of eighteen years of age and over will receive an advance of 2s. 6d. per week, and girls under eighteen an advance of 1s. 3d. per week, over and above their present weekly earnings. These advances, which are intended to meet the increased cost

of living, will come into operation on August 15th, and will apply both to time workers and to workers on systems of payment by result. For the women at present earning the minimum wage in controlled establishments (22s. 6d. a week) the advance represents nearly 10 per cent.

It is further announced that the Ministry has applied to controlled establishments in Ireland the orders regulating the wages of women and girls employed on munition work which have been applied to establishments in similar trades in Great Britain. The Ministry is now considering the question of exercising its powers to secure the same rates of wages for women employed on munitions work in uncontrolled establishments.

The new rise in wages extends to women the concession made to men munition workers, whereby an advance of 3s. a week came into operation on August 1st, and is the direct result of representations made by certain trade unions, principally representing women workers, to the Special Arbitration Tribunal constituted under Section 8 of the Munitions Act, 1916, to deal with such matters. It is stated that arrangements are to be made for setting up tribunals for hearing applications on behalf of women, similar to those that have already been made for reviewing every three months, upon application, the wages paid to men munition workers in the engineering and allied trades.

Resignation of Mrs. Tennant and Miss Markham.

Mrs. Tennant and Miss Violet Markham have resigned their positions as Director and Assistant-Director of the Women's Department of National Service. The work of recruiting for the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps is to be taken over by the Labour Exchanges, and there may be some other rearrangements. In any case, it is much to be hoped that Mrs. Tennant's and Miss Markham's long experience of women's industrial questions will continue to be utilised for the nation.

What About the Children?

On August 7th a woman was fined 40s. in the Westminster Police Court for "permitting disorderly premises" in Tufton Street. It was stated by the prosecution that her room on the ground floor was the habitual resort of disorderly female characters and Colonial soldiers, many of whom were drunk when admitted by the prisoner in response to tapping on a window-frame. This state of affairs was aggravated by the fact that four young children, aged from two and a-half to twelve, shared the front room. There were two beds in the room, one of which was occupied by the four children.

The Times, from which we take the report, does not state whether the magistrate made any order about the children. This case is a terrible example of the inadequacy of our present social arrangements for the protection of children, and of the dangers which beset the innocents in modern England.

In Memory of Mrs. Harley.

Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE will be interested to see (on page 227) that H.M. Queen Alexandra has become a Patroness of the Shrewsbury Society's Harley Memorial Fund. The Queen-Mother has from the first shown a keen interest in the work of the women's hospitals for the wounded.

Causes of Industrial Unrest.

THE WOMEN'S STANDPOINT.

The Reports of the Commission of Enquiry into Industrial Unrest, issued last week, show that the working-classes have many serious causes for discontent; some the inevitable consequences of war, some that might have been avoided and may still be remedied, and others the result of misconception. Unrest in the industrial world is no new thing. It existed in an acute form before the war, and though it is at present allayed, to some extent, by the necessity for united national effort, there are signs that serious trouble may be expected immediately after the war, or even before it ends, if steps are not taken to deal promptly and sympathetically with some of its causes.

To the grievances already existing, others have been added, and it is with those resulting from the war, rather than with the more permanent causes of irritation, that the Reports chiefly deal. These fall into three main headings:—

I. Interferences with the liberty of the people, both as citizens and workers.

Under this heading come the Military Service Act, which many workers feel has not been at all fairly administered, the curtailing of freedom to leave employment, liquor restrictions, and various other minor restrictions, that all tend to increase irritation.

II. Interference with trade customs, and the suspicion that these will not be restored after the war, according to pledge.

Unrest on this score is increased by industrial fatigue.

III. Interference with domestic comfort.

Discontent caused by the great increase in the price of food has been much increased by unequal distribution, the poor having suffered much more inconvenience than the well-to-do, and by the suspicion that prices have been inflated by profiteers. In many districts lack of housing accommodation has been added to the irritation caused by unaccustomed diet and liquor restrictions. Industrial workers have suffered great discomfort, and the lot of the housewife has been hard indeed. Unable to buy sugar or potatoes, told to cut down her family's consumption of bread, she has had to wrestle, in cramped surroundings, with strange kinds of food that her skill is quite unable to render palatable. In addition to her own family, she has often lodgers to feed and "do for," and if, at the end of her hard day's work, her culinary efforts were rejected with scorn, her cup of bitterness must have overflowed.

The causes of unrest enumerated under headings I. and II. have already been discussed at considerable length in the daily Press. So, too, has the question of food prices. Less has been said about the subject of housing, which is emphatically a woman's question, but reports from some of the areas into which the country was divided for purposes of this investigation show that a state of things exists which is a national disgrace. One can only be amazed at the wonderful patience of the women who can try to make a home in such conditions, and the apathy of the local councils that have allowed it to come about. This question is dealt with more fully on page 224.

The Commissioners have very little to say with regard to the special grievances of women as workers, but though these cannot be regarded as actually causing industrial unrest, they certainly require prompt remedy.

In the North-Western area—where the Commissioners seem to have taken most pains to find out the women's point of view, examining a number of women witnesses, from whom they state they received most valuable assistance—the chief cause of complaint among the female workers seems to be that the promises to pay women the same rates as men for the same work, and to give them the minimum wage which they are entitled to, have not been carried out. The illusory nature of these promises has frequently been pointed out in *THE COMMON CAUSE*, and it is discouraging to find that, in spite of representations to the Ministry of Munitions from various quarters, there is still cause for complaint. "Details of shop discipline, such as the closing of lavatories were also rightly complained of," says the Report, "and there seems to be an opinion among working women that the Welfare Workers are not always drawn from a class that really understand the needs and habits of the girls whose interests they are appointed to safeguard."

The Commissions for the London and South-Eastern Area lay special stress in their report on the hardship incurred by

women through suspension. "Of all the suggestions offered in this Report," they state, "there is none which we desire more strongly to urge than this, that women suspended where they are not at fault should be provided with continuing pay, or furnished with sufficient means to enable them at once to return home." It is certainly a gross injustice that workers forbidden by law from leaving their place of employment can yet be suspended, perhaps for several weeks, with only a small proportion of their usual weekly wage, or in some cases none at all. Most of these women are living far from their own homes in lodgings; yet, according to a statement lately made by Mrs. W. C. Anderson, Secretary of the National Federation of Women Workers, no passes are issued to them, as they are to men munition workers, though the homes of some are at such a distance that the return fare costs £3 or more, and they have not been home since they started work. As a concession, she says, they are now to be allowed the passes that the men do not need, but this is quite inadequate.

There is urgent need for putting a stop to the practice of suspension without proper payment, the dangers of which, in the case of women and girls away from home, are obvious, and it is to be hoped that a Government order dealing with this question will be not only made, but strictly enforced. Unfortunately, no satisfactory arrangement has yet been made whereby women can obtain prompt attention for their grievances. They have not the same strong trade-union backing as the men, and they are more timid in putting forward complaints. The Commission for the West Midlands recommend that all women appearing before munitions tribunals should be allowed to see a Woman Assessor in private, and also that the Tribunals should not meet in a Court of Law, as they often do at present, and certainly not in a Police Court. The women, they state, particularly dislike this, and rather than face the publicity will submit to injustice.

With regard to the men's attitude towards the women, a certain amount of jealousy is reported on account of the high wages sometimes earned by women. Apprentices, it is stated, engaged on quite important work, may be receiving, after many years' experience, wages that "bear no proper relation to wages earned by female labour recently introduced." It also sometimes happens that a "skilled man with a life's experience behind him, sees a girl or youth, whom perhaps he himself has taught, earning twice as much as he does. The injury to his self-respect is as great as that to his pocket." Supervisors often do not earn as much as the workers whom they supervise, and often "the tool-maker and the gauge-maker, both skilled men, whose skill is the basis on which the machine operates, are still working on a pre-war rate, plus the bonuses and advances received since the war; but, taking all this into account, are receiving considerably less than the piece-workers." This inequality of wages between the skilled and semi-skilled is mentioned in several reports as a cause of acute discontent.

While there is a certain amount of resentment because women, here and there, are earning wages that seem to their male fellow-workers unduly high, there is also considerable apprehension that women will be used to lower piece rates, and the West Midlands Commission reports that they are satisfied that in some instances the employment of women is actually being used for this purpose. But if the men and women workers will only pull together they can surely make exploitation of this kind impossible. Strongly backed by the men, the women should be able to insist on equal pay for equal work. They will then, without detriment to male workers, be able to take their share in building up our industries again after the war, just as they are taking their share now in furnishing munitions.

Should employers go behind the promise of the Government and attempt to exploit women's labour to bring down rates of pay, there will undoubtedly be such a war between capital and labour as the world has never seen. The Commissioners give grave warnings as to what may happen if steps are not taken to dispel the impression, steadily gaining ground among the workers, that they cannot rely on the pledges given by the Government with regard to the restoration of pre-war customs. The Scottish Report states: "What is known as Dilution of Labour is a very fruitful source of labour unrest. This unrest appears to arise chiefly from the fear that, notwithstanding statutory undertakings to the contrary, dilution will

continue after the war, either through the bad faith of employers or through industrial necessity. We believe that unrest on this score would be largely allayed if an undertaking were given publicly by a responsible Minister that if (as many people believe will happen) it should be found impossible to restore exactly certain pre-war conditions, the new conditions would be mutually arranged in conference with employers and workmen."

The Commissioners for the North-Eastern Area also urge that there must be no going back on, or varying any pledges that have been given, and that "if circumstances have shown that the pledges were given without realisation of the circumstances as they have emerged, it is better to trust to the good sense of the workers than to raise any doubt as to the bona-fides of the pledges given."

Women employed on work hitherto closed to them, are profoundly hoping that the good sense of their male fellow-workers will lead them to take a broader view of women's place in industry than trade unionists have usually done in the past. They are feeling very anxious; for while some leading trade unionists have frankly admitted that the women "have come to stay," and have a right to stay, threats of "turning the women out" are heard in many quarters. It is impossible to view without apprehension agreements made between representatives of employers' associations on the one hand, and of the trade unions on the other, without any representation of women's interests; especially as some of the most powerful trade unions do not admit women to membership. Dilution cannot, of course, be continued without the trade unions' full consent. The Government's pledge on this score was quite definite; but if the scheme formulated by the Whitley Committee is adopted, there should be women's representatives on all the committees appointed. If the point of view of the women workers is put forward with tact and courage, there is hope that the trade unions will not insist on pre-war restrictions on women's labour, but will content themselves with obtaining the safeguard of a pledge that equal pay shall be given for the same unit of work. This safeguard, staunchly upheld by the unions, should allay any fear of the men being ousted by the women. Employers, as a rule, show a decided preference for male labour, other things being equal, and if slack times come the women will be the first to go. There is certainly no desire on the part of the women to oust the men, but it is to be hoped, as much from the national point of view as for the sake of the women themselves, that no hasty action will be taken to deprive them, as soon as the war is over, of all chance of using the skill they have acquired. According to many prophecies, there will be room and to spare for all in the work of building up our industries anew.

M. MEREDITH.

Reviews.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN. August, 1917.

No one who is thinking over the prospects of women's work and organisations can read this month's number of *The Englishwoman* without keen interest.

Mr. Strachey's article on the future of the women's societies strikes a key-note: "women have not come to the end of their labours. No 'Nunc Dimittis' can yet be sung." The rest of this August number brings vivid, concrete matter towards the theme. What woman would choose another age to live in than ours? With all its revelation of suffering, disappointment, and failure, was there ever any other time so generous in opportunities for experience and service? In an article on "A German Girls' School of the 'Eighties,'" we get a glimpse of an older order, when ruling and not governing was the perfect, strict disciplinarians' aim. Whether German girls' schools are still what they were thirty years ago or not, the sketch of the indomitable spirit of the head and the unruly maidens is given with some power of characterisation and a delightfully human touch. As cases of "balked disposition," these girls and their teacher form an object-lesson in bad methods of education and social structure.

"Women Workers and the Whitley Committee" opens up a field of possible and much-needed activity in gaining for the all-important question of women's place in industry the consideration which the Committee withholds when it makes over the whole future of the industrial woman worker to bodies representing employers and Trades Unions alone. More organisation and a better is the means suggested for enforcing women's claim to equality of opportunity. But how to organise women in the future, assuming the vote is won? Here Mr. Strachey's article leaves us with one very important consideration. To educated womanhood, the united voice of womanhood on this or that particular method or matter of legislation, is as much of a fiction as would be the united voice of manhood. What unity there is, is unity in difference. We cannot write the woman's point of view in capital letters, nor arrive at it by a short cut of vigorous leadership or all too narrowly logical thought. Yet it exists; as do religion and philosophy and other things, distinct and yet intangible. The best machinery by which to focus it for political purposes will be by the organisation of a body with a comprehensive educational aim

and with limited and specialised executive action. "The watchwords of the future are co-operation with autonomy."

The writer assumes "a clean slate," and sketches "a purely ideal arrangement"; yet, if parochial prejudice will but give them a chance, his suggestions for joint meetings of local societies are practical indeed in their economy of labour and advantage of co-operation. A different form of opportunity for women speaks in "Problems of the Day," with its interesting parallel between 1854, the Crimean, and 1915, the Mesopotamian, Expedition. The Scottish Women's Hospital—Florence Nightingale's children in the spirit—were refused admission to Mesopotamia by the War Office, notwithstanding the crying evils of neglected suffering among our men, their hospital of 200 beds and their nurses and equipment were declined. "What has been amiss cannot be undone, but it may be in a measure atoned for, and nothing would be more fitting than that the help of medical women and nurses should be called in even at this late hour." Fortunately, by now their work has won recognition of their worth.

"Repentance and the Enemy" reminds us forcibly that all our general terms—and nationality among them—need revision; while "War and the Poets" makes solid and interesting remarks on our older poets, and speaks guardedly of poets of our own time. Lastly, "Echoes" points to a scheme for work for unmarried mothers that may yet leave them the companionship and responsibility of their babies.

MARGARET OF SCOTLAND AND THE DAUPHIN LOUIS, by Louis A. Barbé. (Blackie & Sons.)

In this study of a state marriage of the fifteenth century Mr. Barbé has rescued from obscurity one of the most pathetic of the many stories of unfortunate princesses sacrificed to the supposed interests of dynasties and kingdoms. It is rather a shadowy, elusive personality of which one gets occasional glimpses in the quaint old records, which concern themselves mainly with such practical matters as the terms of the marriage treaty, and the cost of provisioning the fleet which escorted the princess to France. The negotiations concerning the marriage of the Princess Margaret, daughter of King James I. of Scotland, with the son of Charles VII. of France, afterwards Louis XI., began in 1428, when the bridegroom elect was not quite five years old, and the bride two years younger. They dragged on with alternate advances and withdrawals on both sides, as the policy of the moment made the marriage seem more or less desirable, until 1436, when the wedding took place at Tours.

Most English readers derive their idea of the character of Louis XI. of France chiefly from the pages of *Quentin Durward*; there is nothing in the volume to which we are now referring to give us a pleasanter picture of him in early youth. He seems to have systematically ignored and neglected his bride, and the slander and intrigue of which she was the victim during the rest of her short life was the natural result of the difficult position in which she was thus placed.

Her greatest compensations she found in the composition of verses (the universal Court pastime at that date), to which she devoted herself so ardently as to injure her health, in the opinion of her doctors, and in the kindness of her husband's parents, which seems to have been real and unvarying. She died in 1445 at the age of twenty-two. Her last recorded words are a pathetic comment on the life of Courts, as she had experienced it: "Fy de la vie de ce monde! Ne m'en parlez plus"—"et puis autre chose n'en oyt," the chronicler adds.

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The Housing Problem and Industrial Unrest.

The Joint Committee on Labour Problems After the War has issued a statement in which it calls on the Government to provide for the building of a million new working-class houses directly after the war, and says that there is no other question on which it is so necessary that an immediate decision should be made. With this reminder of the facts before us, it seems at first a little surprising that not all the reports recently issued by the Commission of Enquiry into Industrial Unrest lay stress on the lack of adequate housing as one of the chief causes for the state of tension and irritation which they have found among many workers in different parts of the country. The reason, however, is not far to seek. Housing is not, strictly speaking, a war problem. It has not arisen out of war conditions as the present food prices, the Military Service Acts, the Munitions Acts, the liquor restrictions, and other causes of discontent have done. It was with us before the war. It has been severely accentuated in some places, but in its worst elements it is not a new thing. Most of the Commissioners probably took it more or less for granted. Indeed, the Commissioners for the North-Eastern Area say so. "The Commissioners do not think it necessary to refer to the Housing question in greater detail, as it is prominently before the nation as a problem which must be solved as soon as circumstances permit, but they have thought it right to point out that it was put forward as one of the general causes of industrial unrest, which should in the national interest be dealt with at an early date."

In one sense, it is certainly true that the Housing problem is prominently before the nation. It has existed for a great many years, and social workers and thinkers have long recognised that till it is dealt with, the necessary foundation is lacking for a number of other great and pressing reforms. But we fear that a very large proportion of the nation, and of those responsible for governing it, are still far from having this urgent matter as constantly in their thoughts as will be necessary if the difficulties in the way of solving it are to be swiftly and surely overcome. It is one of the things which we have been far too apt to take for granted. It is worth while, therefore, to enquire again what was the condition of working-class housing before the war, how it has been affected by the war, and what hope there is of immediate improvement.

It is hardly necessary to say that these questions cannot all be dealt with in the space of one article.* Only a few facts can be cited as examples. With regard to the condition of things before the war, the census of 1901 showed that in England and Wales alone there were no fewer than 2,667,506 persons living more than two to a room. In the southern half of Scotland, and in some parts of Ireland (notably Dublin and Belfast) conditions were even worse. In Glasgow, for example, where every room in the artisan's house is used as a bedroom, no less than 55.7 per cent. of the whole population were living more than two persons to a room, and 27.9 per cent. actually more than three persons to a room. In the crowded parts of Glasgow it was calculated in 1916 that there was a population of 223 persons per acre. Out of a total of 230,950 dwellings, 40,286 consisted of single rooms. It is not surprising to learn that in these same districts of Glasgow the infant death rate was 160 per thousand. The general effect on the health of the population may be imagined when we reflect what this overcrowding means, not only in the way of working and sleeping in absolutely airless corners, but in sheer poisoning from the inevitable collection of dirt of every kind, and from the hideous inadequacy of sanitary accommodation. This kind of thing has been going on, not only in Glasgow and Dublin and Belfast, but, in a greater or less degree, in all the

* Those who are interested in the housing question are recommended to read *A Million New Houses After the War*, published by the Joint Committee on Labour Problems after the War, 1, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1, price 1d.; and *The Report of the Commission on Industrial Unrest for the North-Western Area*, to be obtained from Messrs. King, Great Smith Street, S.W. 1, 4d.

poorer districts of our large towns. London readers may remember the scandal of Tabard Street. On April 16th, 1916, an inquest was held on the death of a nine year old child, Albert Martin, whose mother stated that she and four children lived in a room 8 feet 6 inches square. In the course of the enquiry, it came out that sixteen years before, Dr. Waldo, then Sanitary Officer for the district, had urged the demolition of insanitary houses in Tabard Street, and that twenty-seven years before (in 1889) he had reported on a serious outbreak of typhus caused by the insanitary condition of these same dwellings. Strangely enough, this very Dr. Waldo was the coroner at the inquest on Albert Martin. It is no wonder that he said the state of things "passed his comprehension." We are glad to know that since this happened, the L.C.C. have spent over £7,000 in clearing Tabard Street, but how many children have been directly or indirectly killed by it in the twenty-seven years since Dr. Waldo's first report, and how many "Tabard Streets" are there still left?

Unfortunately, we know that horrors like those of this district have increased since the census of 1901, and increased more rapidly since the beginning of the war. From 1907 on, the number of new houses to let at less than 10s. a week had rapidly declined, and, taking the country as a whole, it had year by year fallen far short of the annual increase of population. Since the beginning of war, all such building (except in about a dozen "munition areas") has ceased. It has, in fact, been prohibited. We have no general statistics before us. We can, doubtless, presume that in some areas the absence of large numbers of men and women on service abroad has been a slight alleviation to the growing pressure on space, but to set against this we have the problem of the munition districts in which the increase of housing has not begun to keep pace with the increase of population. Following close on the horrors of Tabard Street, we have the horrors of Barrow-in-Furness. These should be read in the supplementary report of the Commissioners for the North-Western area, who rightly say that to "those who have the power of translating statistical figures into the facts of human life" their simple statement needs no comment to make it convincing. We will only quote one or two items from their list of facts. The population of Barrow has grown from 65,257 in 1912 to 85,179 in 1916. In the same time 1,686 dwellings have been built. At the beginning of the war there was already a well-recognised shortage of houses in Barrow. Now, every house takes in lodgers. "The number of beds occupied night and day on Box and Cox principles runs into thousands." Some terrible cases of overcrowding were related in evidence. In one house a father and mother and eight children (two of whom were over seventeen) were found living in one room. In this same room the mother was confined of her ninth child. In another case, nine persons lived in one room, and sixteen in one small house; one bedroom being occupied by two grown-up sisters and two brothers of sixteen and seventeen. Munition workers have to pay preposterous sums for lodgings or to travel immense distances to their work. Several instances are given of women being turned out of their lodgings shortly before the time of their confinements, and finding no others that would take them in.

In reading the evidence one wonders whether all this is not enough in itself to account for industrial unrest. The increase of strain caused by these living conditions for people who are working to the fullest extent of their powers must be almost unbearable. "For the majority of workers," says a witness, "there is no home life. In some instances the wife is engaged on munition work, but in the majority of cases she is occupied with lodgers. The married man returns home to find his wife clearing up for the lodgers, and his own meal not ready—in fact, with children, lodgers, and husband, the wife has her hands full, with the result that one or other is neglected, and naturally dissatisfied." No wonder! The condition of things is bad for the lodgers, bad for the husband, and bad for the children; but surely it is worst of all for the woman who never gets away from the horrible, over-crowded house, and from her impossible task?

It is interesting to note that the Commissioners for the North-Western Area who make this report, took the evidence of a good many women. In the case of most of the other areas there is very little to show whether women were consulted or not. Some do not give the names of witnesses at all. One wonders whether, if more women had been consulted all over the country, the Housing Problem would have appeared more generally as one of the chief causes of industrial unrest. It is at any rate certain that wherever and whenever the opinion of women is asked about the conditions of life, this problem of the home will come to the front.

That is one of the many reasons that makes it so important

that the Representation of the People Bill should go through this autumn, and that it should contain a clause giving the municipal vote to married women. The Government tell us that they are prepared to take action in the matter of housing, and to give considerable financial assistance to local authorities. If the new scheme is to be thorough, workable, and economical, it is essential that women should be consulted at every stage, especially married working women, and that these same women should have representation on the municipal bodies, who will probably have control over a great part of the work. If this is done, and if the scheme is on a generous scale, we may hope that in the future both those who are called the "Home-makers," and those who are now defending the "Home," may have something like homes to live in and call their own.

I. B. O'MALLEY.

After the War Problems.

(ONE OF THEM.)

To "release a man for the Army" is the laudable motive that has brought many women and girls into positions they would never have thought it possible to occupy in pre-war days. Doubtless, other considerations have also had their weight. The pay, though almost invariably less than that of the man they replaced, is almost as invariably higher than earned in their normal and "womanly" work. The spirit of adventure has also had something to say in the matter, and the chance of getting out of the old job, where the events of every hour were familiar and therefore boring in these exciting days, has been too good to resist.

The cumulative effect has been that the "woman's trades" of former days have been denuded of workers, who have rallied to the new occupations in tens, in hundreds, in thousands. It has been a case of the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, where everyone has moved on a place, and the covers at the bottom of the table are left without guests.

Every thoughtful person is asking, "What is going to happen to these thousands of girls and women in the unimaginable days after the war?" And no one has yet found the answer. Complacent people sometimes reply that they will return to their old trades. Will they?

At the beginning of the replacement movement, domestic servants became bus conductors, factory girls became messengers and warehousewomen, girls from all sorts of services and trades went to munitions; and dressmakers and milliners sought distraction from needle and cotton in sorting letters at the Post Office. This they looked upon, quite rightly as it turned out, as a stepping-stone to the goal of their ambition—a lady clerk. Many of them have realised this ambition, and having passed through the fire of letter-sorting, have emerged as "clerks with slight experience."

So the metamorphosis goes on, and the supply of young, capable, eager women, anxious to do a man's job, seems to be inexhaustible. It is not quite so inexhaustible as appears, however. As the weeks go on, the supply of skilled workers gets used up, and the less skilled and unskilled in other occupations get their chance. For example, a good many bookfolders and numberers are now taking the places of the dressmaker clerks in the sorting offices. One wonders why, when dressmakers are as scarce as plumbers, the trade does not make a determined effort to keep its trained and skilled workers, by increasing wages, so as to make their old trade at least as attractive as the new one. It is true that "hands" who, in the bad old days, earned from 18s. to 22s. can now earn 25s.—30s. but what is that compared to the joys of 27s. for throwing down the needle in favour of sorting letters, with the dazzling prospect of a typewriter in the middle-distance? As for bookfolders, the most generously paid hand will hardly go beyond 25s., even in these days of scarcity, and 2s. a week rise—as a start, to say nothing of the change of work—is too good to resist. Who would not rather be a warehouse-hand or a lift attendant or a messenger earning 25s a week, with a chance to "see life," and move from place to place in the course of a day's work, than sit at a bench all day, eyes fast on work, monotonously doing one small job without break for hours on end, even if the money were the same.

Now, what is going to become of all these workers, many hundreds of them, when—if ever—industry and the labour market return to their normal aspect?

With the supplies of paper once more ample, demands for advertisements pouring in, books waiting to be printed, and the public hungry for printed matter, there will, doubtless, be many vacancies for the errant bookfolder and printer. With the supplies of woollen, cotton, and silk materials plentiful, the demand for new clothing, both for men and women, at, or even

above pre-war levels, there will be work in plenty for the emancipated clerk-dressmaker.

But will she go back? And if she will, can she resume her trade?

That is the whole trouble. Inadequately though these forsaken trades are remunerated, the workers are very highly skilled. It takes years of training to enable a girl to wield just the right touch in trimming a hat, draping a dress, frilling a ruffle. It takes years of practice to make 1,200 cigarettes a day, or even to pack them in boxes of twenty, and such skill can very easily be lost, when the hand and the eye have spent some months on quite other work.

I have heard of a dressmaker, one of the chief "hands" at a large West End firm, who, after working for eighteen months at a variety of other trades, military equipment, munitions, &c., failed so badly over making a simple dress for herself that the material was utterly spoilt.

Now the demand for dressmakers is high, she would gladly return to her old firm, but her skill is gone; she will not come down in her trade and take a lower place in order to relearn the skill she has lost, so she must, perforce, retain her man's job till the man comes home? And then?

[This article has been kindly contributed by the Women's Industrial Council.]

PROBLEMS OF RECONSTRUCTION.

The Summer Meeting at the Hampstead Garden Suburb to discuss Problems of Reconstruction was opened on Saturday afternoon, August 3rd.

Speaking on Industrial Reconstruction, Mr. Sidney Webb said that so far no arrangement had been made for placing in other industries after the war the three million men and women at present employed in making munitions. Even if every one of these took only one week to find another place, it would still mean a great many people out of work at one time. He advocated that the Government should take over control of mining, housing, and other main industries, and should distribute the work so that the aggregate of wages should be kept level throughout the year, and from year to year.

This system, he advocated, should be applied to industry after industry. So alone could unemployment be prevented. "If no unemployed engineers," he said, "are walking the streets, the danger to women will be very greatly minimised. There will be no cause to turn them out."

Speaking at the Monday meeting on "Women after the War," Mrs. Creighton maintained the impossibility of returning to pre-war conditions according to the letter. She hoped that there would be no sex warfare, but regarded it as an ominous sign that when, in addressing large gatherings of men, she had said she could not believe that men in the future would be ungenerous in their treatment of women, or would seek unfair conditions, such remarks had always been coldly received. The success of the taxi-cab men in preventing women driving cabs was a species of sex warfare. If women were to maintain a fair position in industry they must be organised, and it was to be hoped that the men's unions would admit women far more largely than they had hitherto done, and admit them to a share of management. Women must be careful not to under-sell men in regard to their work. Regarding public work, something might be learned from the mistakes of the past. If the higher positions in the Civil Service had been open to women, we should now have had women trained and ready to fill them, instead of having to get such places by chance, and sometimes through inside influence. Women's position in Government offices was far from satisfactory; there was a large amount of official jealousy keeping them out of the higher positions. They were not sufficiently represented on departmental and other committees, where their special experience was much needed. A departmental committee had recently been appointed to consider the salaries of teachers in elementary schools, the majority of whom were women, yet there were only four women on the committee, against fourteen men.

With respect to enfranchisement, women were thankful for what they had got. Fuller recognition would largely depend upon the way they used their new powers. She hoped one result would be to bring a larger number of questions outside purely party considerations. They did not want questions like temperance, housing, education, to be decided by party considerations.

STOKE NEWINGTON'S FIRST WOMAN COUNCILLOR.

A good many instances have come to us lately of important public work being carried out by Suffragists. One of the most interesting is the election of Miss C. M. Eve to the Stoke Newington Borough Council. Members of the N.U.W.S.S. will remember Miss Eve's able and devoted work for Women's Suffrage in the years in which she was Hon. Secretary for the North Hackney Branch of the London Society and a member of the Executive Committee of the L.S.W.S. Though Miss Eve accomplished so much suffrage work that those who met her in that field might well have thought that she did nothing else, she did, as a matter of fact, carry on a great amount of other social work at the same time, besides fulfilling many domestic claims. Since the beginning of the war she has worked unceasingly as Joint Secretary of the local Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association, now a branch of the London War Pensions Committee. She is also a School Manager, and for a number of years she has been a voluntary health worker. The Mayor of Stoke Newington, who proposed her election, and Councillor Dee, who seconded it, paid a warm tribute to her in all these capacities, and the election by the Council was unanimous. In thanking the Council, Miss Eve said that, as they all or most of them knew, she had always worked and hoped for equal opportunities for men and women. She thanked the Council for the honour done her, as being the first woman allowed to share their work with them.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries: MISS VIOLET KUSTACH.
MRS. OLIVER STRACHY (Parliamentary)
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. AUBRECHT.
Secretary: MISS EDITH STOFFORD.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless 'phone, London. Telephone—4673 Vic.

Contributions to the General Fund.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1916	1,369 2 5
Received from July 30th to August 7th, 1917:—	
SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
Miss M. B. Alder	1 0 0
Miss Florence G. Fidler	5 0
Miss Margaret Hare	3 0
AFFILIATION FEES.	
Wilmslow and Styal W.S.S.	7 6
Kilmarnock W.S.S.	1 5 6
Rawtenstall and Waterfoot W.S.S.	5 0
Rugby W.S.S.	15 0
Aberdare W.S.S.	6 9
Aberystwyth W.S.S.	17 6
Carmarthen W.S.S.	13 0
Chepstow W.S.S.	5 0
Llanelli W.S.S.	1 1 0
Neath W.S.S.	13 9
Port Talbot W.S.S.	5 3
	£1,377 5 8

IMPORTANT.

Postal Orders should be crossed and filled in N.U.W.S.S. Treasury Notes should be treated like coins, and always registered. If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Please address letters containing money either to the Secretary or to Mrs. Auerbach, or Miss Sterling, by name, not to the Treasurer.

A "COMMON CAUSE" HUT IN FRANCE.

We are most grateful to those kind friends who have already responded to our appeal for help for the new COMMON CAUSE Hut for British Women War Workers in France.

Our Coventry Hut now has eleven thousand members. This shows how useful it is. We earnestly wish to help in the same way the thousands of girls who are going out to France to conditions of living quite different from those they have been used to at home, and provide them with a place where they can get rest and refreshment and the companionship and help of their own countrywomen. Contributions should be sent to The Editor, COMMON CAUSE, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. 1.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged	4 7 6
Miss Evelyn Atkinson	10 0
Miss A. G. Pollock	1 1 0
Miss A. L. Hargrove	1 1 0
Mrs. Patterson	5 0
Mrs. R. Flemming	1 0 0
Mrs. Tudor Jones	10 0
Miss Margaret Rintoul	2 6
Miss M. Rackham	10 0
Mrs. Roberts	5 0
Mrs. Oliver	10 0
F. F.	2 0
W.	5 0
Mrs. Muller	10 0 0
Lady Mary Cayley	1 0 0
Miss Maud M. Cox	1 1 0
Miss Juliet Reckitt	10 10 0
Mrs. Fawcett	2 2 0
Miss E. D. Gibb	5 0
M. A. B.	10 0
	£35 17 0

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital. for Home and Foreign Service.

TERMS OF SERVICE.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies' Scottish Women's Hospitals, which will shortly complete the third year of its existence, has at the present date six Units at work with the Armies of the Allies. The Committee continue to employ both fully trained nurses, and also nurses who do not come into this category. In the early days of the Hospitals, no distinction was made between nurses of different grades of training. The Committee recently, however, decided to depart from their original procedure, and have instituted a difference in the remuneration of "fully trained" and "not fully trained" nurses.

Fully trained nurses receive salary at the rate of £50 per annum, and have the title of Sister. Nurses with less than three years' training receive remuneration at the rate of £45. In both cases there is a rise of salary at the rate of £5 per annum after one year's service. Nurses of both classes receive uniform and travelling expenses.

Further subscriptions are still urgently needed, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or the Hon. Mrs. B. M. Graves, Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Forward as per list to July 26th 1917	229,713 0 9
Further donations received to August 2nd, 1917:—	
Employees Messrs. Bunney's Ltd., per Miss Curwen	1 4 6
Messrs. Owen Owen, Ltd., per J. T. Luton, Director, per Miss Curwen	10 0
The Misses Brittain, per John S. Samuel, Esq.	1 0 0
*Ware Grammar School for Girls, per Miss M. E. Brough, Headmistress	8 0 0
*Mrs. M. M. J. Richardson (Royaumont)	100 0 0
Miss Martin	3 0 0
*Girls of George Watson's Ladies' College, per Miss C. E. Ainslie, Headmistress	5 0 0
*Per Miss Etta Shankland: Proceeds Charity Matinee, Central Picture House, Greenock (to name bed, Home Unit): Tickets sold (£18 17s. 10d.), Donations (£6 11s. 4d.), Auction and subscription sales (£27 7s. 7d.), Flowers sold (£3 4s. 1d.), Programmes (£3 3s. 11d.)—£59 4s. 9d., less expenses £3 9s. 11d., £50 14s. 10d.; Firm & Workmen Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., per D. L. Laurie, Esq., for "Glen Ship-building Yard" bed (Home Unit) (8th instal.) (£2 7s. 3d.), Messrs. Ferguson Bros., per R. S. Herd, Esq. (Corsica) (£10)	63 2 1
*Falkirk Iron Co., per Miss Belle Moir, Hon. Treas. Falkirk W.S.S. (two payments)	20 0 0
*Mrs. Cuthbert	2 0 0
Mrs. Wood	2 0 0
*Per Miss E. H. Brown: To continue the "Annie B. McNeill" bed (Villars-Cotteret) for six months: Miss Johnstone, Mrs. Kerr Duff, and the Misses M. G. and G. W. Johnstone (£10), Mrs. Arthur H. McLean (£5 0s. 6d.), Mrs. W. A. Brown (£5), Miss E. H. Brown (£5)	25 0 6
*Anonymous	33 6 8
*Per Miss Isabelle Kerr, Local Hon. Sec. S.W.H.: 12th instal. from the Waste Paper and Waste Material Scheme	50 0 0
*Hugh Roberts, Esq.	10 10 0
*Per Miss Wyse, Hon. Sec. Birkenhead & District W.S.S., from week's collection on Birkenhead Tramways, for "Birkenhead" bed, Salonica (2nd instalment)	21 17 0
*Per Miss Helen Hawley, Wincosin, additional proceeds of Miss Kathleen Burke's lecture in Milwaukee (already received £100)	32 5 9
*Domestic Staff, St. Mary's School, Melrose	10 0
*Per Sir J. Hope Simpson, Local Hon. Treas. S.W.H., additional sums collected in Liverpool on behalf of the S.W.H. (already received £4,000)	571 4 5
*Edinburgh W.S.S., per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas. (July collections): Patrick Thomson, Ltd., to name a "Patrick Thomson" bed, Home Unit (£25 11s.); *Employees Messrs. McVitie & Price (£15), Collected in Classrooms and at Exhibition of Work in Newbattle Public School (£12 15s.), Proceeds of Broxburn Flag Day (£12 4s.), Students, Episcopal Training College, Edinburgh (£5 7s. 9d.), *Employees Messrs. Thomson & Porteous (£3 12s. 6d.), *Women Clerks, Act.	

* Denotes further donations.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Bed.	Donor.
"Annie B. McNeill" (Villars-Cotteret) (further 6 months)	Per Miss E. H. Brown, Greenock.
"Birkenhead" (Salonica) (further 3 months)	Per Miss Wyse, Hon. Sec. Birkenhead and District W.S.S.
"Patrick Thomson" (Home Unit) (1st 6 months)	Edinburgh W.S.S., per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas.
"From Employees North British Diesel Engine Works" (1st year)	Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.

NOTE.—Through the energetic efforts of Miss Kathleen Burke in Canada, we have again received the sum of £1,000 for the further upkeep of the Canada Ward in Royaumont, and £800 for the Madge Neill Fraser Hamilton Ontario Memorial Ward at Ajaccio, Corsica. These donations were acknowledged in a very recent issue of THE COMMON CAUSE.

London Units.

Miss May Curwen, who is on a tour of the South Coast, speaking on behalf of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, writes that the weather has obliged her to abandon out-door meetings; but she has done well in Worthing, where the local committee is working hard. At the Band Concert on the Pier £8 16s. was collected, at the Cinema 16s., and at the Concert at St. James's Hall between £7 and £8.

A meeting is to be held at St. James's Hall on the 14th, when the Viscountess Cowdray will preside, and the Hon. Evelina Haverfield will speak.

The tour in the Isle of Wight will begin after August 14th, and there will probably be meetings at Bournemouth, where again the Hon. Evelina Haverfield will be the principal speaker.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Dept., G.P.O. (£2 8s.), *Leith Domestic Servants (£2 6s. 2d.), *Employees Messrs. Munro, Ltd. (£2 4s.), *Employees McTaggart, Scott & Co. (£1 18s. 5d.), Livingstone Memorial Y.M.C.A. Bible Class (10s.), National Union of Railwaymen, Harden Green Branch (10s.)	84 5 10
*Sir R. Rowand Anderson	3 0 0
*Per Mrs. Manson, Hon. Treas. New Forest W.S.S.: Proceeds of Tennis Tournament, per Miss Butterworth	7 10 0
*Per Sir James Hope Simpson, Local Hon. Treas. S.W.H., A. S. Hannay, Esq., additional to Liverpool collections in aid of the S.W.H.	10 0 0
Messrs. James C. Barr, Ltd.	1 0 0
*Staffs of the Beira Boating Co., Ltd., and Manica Trading Co., Ltd., Beira, per A. E. Graham, Esq., Hon. Sec. Beira (Portuguese East Africa) British War Relief Fund (Serbian Unit)	10 0 0
*Per Miss Craigie: Sale of Post Cards	4 6
*Per Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S. Joint Committee (July donations): Proceeds of "Persian Plays" Entertainment in Ayr, per Miss Lawrie (£386 12s. 10d.), Association of Women Graduates of Glasgow University, per Miss Lang, for Dr. Ivens' Advance Hospital (Villars-Cotteret) (£20 10s.), Proceeds of Red Cross Fête in Dalry, per Mrs. Morton (£17 10s.), Share of proceeds of entertainment in Newham House School, Ayr, per Miss Zara Miller (£16), *Mrs. G. B. Crookston, per Messrs. Robb & Crosbie (£10), *Proceeds of "Thistle" drawings sale, per Dr. J. H. McIlroy (£9 4s.), Flower Sales at Rouken Glen, per Mrs. Gordon and Miss Armour (£6 8s. 10d.), Sale of Post Cards, per Dr. J. H. McIlroy (£5 2s. 9d.), *Miss Fulton, per Miss Ritson (13s.), Mrs. Soltenborn (Flower Sales) (10s.), J. D. (10s.), *Workmen's Scheme.—Employees North British Diesel Engine Works, Ltd., to name bed, "From Employees of North British Diesel Engine Works" (£66 6s. 7d.), *Employees Messrs. Bilisland Bros. (£20), *Employees Messrs. Morrison & Mason, Ltd. (£15 18s. 11d.), *Employees Messrs. Ross & Duncan (£10), *Employees Messrs. William Simons & Co., Ltd. (£7 8s.), *Employees Messrs. Sloan, Munro & Co., Ltd. (£5 5s.), Paisley Co-op. Manuf. Soc., Ltd. (£5), *Employees Messrs. William Beattie (£3 9s. 1d.), *Tron-gate Yards and Fitzroy Employees Messrs. P. & W. McLellan, Ltd. (£3 3s. 5d.), *Machine Employees Messrs. J. & T. Boyd, Ltd. (£3), *Employees Messrs. Hay, Nisbet & Co., Ltd. (£3), *Employees Messrs. William Martin, Sons & Co. (£2 2s.), *Employees Messrs. Cassel Cyanide Co., Ltd. (£2), The Workpeople in Troqueur Mills, per Miss Scott (£1 12s. 9d.), *Employees Messrs. Alexander Jack & Co. (16s.)	622 3 2
	£231,401 15 2

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

MANCHESTER.—The Conference initiated by the Manchester and District Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies, and convened by a large number of women's societies in the district, was largely attended by women from the principal bodies of women interested in social, political, and industrial interests of women. About 200 delegates attended, and the discussion was very interesting and helpful. In the afternoon, when Miss Courtney presided, the discussion ranged round the question, "Should women work together for the freedom of development of womanhood and the opportunity of contributing fully to the public life of the country?"

In her opening speech, Miss Courtney spoke strongly in favour of some form of central organisation for women which, in view of the enfranchisement of 6,000,000 women in the near future, seemed to her an imperative necessity. She discussed three forms which this organisation might take, and strongly advocated a central committee and headquarters which would be in constant touch with Parliament and have branches in every town and village.

Mr. Armstrong, while agreeing that a women's organisation was necessary, strongly urged that women should join the men's political associations with which their own views agreed and seek to permeate them. Miss Hertz pointed out that The National Union of Women Workers has a scheme now under consideration for organising women for political and social work after their enfranchisement. Mrs. Thoday pointed out that women had a special contribution to make to the common life of the nation, and could only make this contribution if they were organised to do so.

Miss Ashton advocated the setting up of a Whip's office in London that shall watch the trend of legislation and send out to all the bodies affiliated a *résumé* of what is going on, and advice as to action at the moment. This whip's office would be extremely effective without forming a women's party. Mrs. Pearson, of the National Federation of Women Workers, said that in her opinion the issue had been put too much from a political standpoint. She thought it was high time that the women of this country began to think for themselves, but that working-class women would have to be relieved of much of the economic strain and over-work which at present hampered them before women could be effective in public life.

Miss Neal pointed out that the Conference proved that women were already able to take common action.

Mrs. Annot Robinson said that although on political questions like Tariff Reform or the Irish question, women would have diverse views and could not unite for common action, and although common action would not be possible when class issues were involved, yet on problems connected with child life, the home, endowment

of motherhood, the health of the community—in short, problems of human relationship—common action was not only possible, but imperative. A woman's party going to devote itself to such questions as these will want to go a step further and consider how to make these questions practical, political issues which will have to be dealt with.

She was of opinion that some central body that could take up an idea like that of Mothers' Pensions and work it into practical shape would be of value. She thought a woman's party would essentially be one which could generate ideas, make them workable, and then through its organisations create energy throughout the country, so that when a General Election came, sufficient concentration on that issue would be secured and no politician ignore it. At the time of elections it would be possible through such combined action to impose on candidates certain ideas which you knew to be sound, and to demand from them certain pledges, whilst suggesting that behind the demand there was a certain amount of control and influence in the shape of a united and determined body of women voters. Along those lines it would be comparatively easy to make a woman's point of view effective in British politics.

Those present, by a free vote, answered the question in the affirmative.

At the evening session, Miss Ashton, from the chair, opened a discussion on the manner in which women can arrive at a working basis of agreement on questions of special importance to them, such as housing, public health, education, rates of women's wages, custody of children, &c., and a very interesting debate took place.

It is hoped in the autumn to follow up the work done by a Conference less tentative and more concentrated in its aims.

GLASGOW.—By invitation of the Parliamentary Bills Sub-Committee of Glasgow Corporation, the Glasgow W.S.S. sent representatives to the meeting of local political bodies which took place on July 24th in connection with redistribution proposals. The Vice-President, Miss M. J. Buchanan, and the Secretary, Miss Lindsay, represented the Society. They were the only women present at the meeting.

MAIDENHEAD, July 31st.—An afternoon meeting was held at Elindene (by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Underhill), when Miss Margaret Jones spoke on Suffrage—"Present Prospects and Future Plans." There was a good attendance, and a friendly discussion ensued, when many questions were asked and answered. Miss Duncan was in the chair. The vote of thanks was moved by Miss Rae.

BOURNEMOUTH.—A meeting of the Society was held on July 31st at Miss Heckel's house, at Boscombe, the attendance was small in consequence of the bad weather; but those present were deeply interested by an excellent address from Miss Geraldine Cooke, on the political situation and the duties of the future. Questions and discussion followed. Mr. Claude Lyon took the chair.

Forthcoming Meetings.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.—
FRIDAY, AUGUST 10th, 12.15 to 12.30, at the Dock Gates, Portsmouth—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 10th, 4.30 to 5.0 p.m., at North Pier Pavilion, Southsea—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14th at 5.0 p.m., at St. James's Hall, Worthing—Chairman: The Viscountess Cowdray—Speaker: The Hon. Evelyn Haverfield.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23rd, and FRIDAY, AUGUST 24th.—Ventnor Open-air Meetings.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 24th, at 8.0 p.m.—Royal Marine Hotel, Ventnor—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 26th, at 8.0 p.m.—Seaview Hotel, Seaview, Ryde—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.
MONDAY, AUGUST 27th, at 8.15 p.m.—Royal Esplanade Hotel, Ryde—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28th, at 3.30 p.m.—Mrs. Thornton's "At Home," Caversham House, Ryde—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.

THE SHREWSBURY SOCIETY'S MRS. HARLEY MEMORIAL FUND.

Queen Alexandra has graciously promised to become a patroness of the scheme inaugurated in memory of Mrs. Harley, and the following letter has been received:—

Marlborough House, Pall Mall,

30th July, 1917.

SIR,—Queen Alexandra has desired me to thank you for your letter of the 19th inst., and to say that her Majesty is very glad to give her name in support of the scheme to endow a ward in the Royal Salop Infirmary to perpetuate the memory of Mrs. Harley.

Her Majesty cannot conceive a more fitting tribute to the memory of this brave lady, who worked so unremittingly and so unselfishly to alleviate the sufferings of the sick and wounded in this terrible war, and who made the great sacrifice whilst engaged upon her work of mercy in tending the distressed Serbians at Monastir on March 7th, 1917.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) HENRY STREATFIELD, Colonel,
Private Secretary to H.M. Queen Alexandra.
A. C. McCorquodale, Esq.

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VALKASA
THE TONIC NERVE FOOD.
An Invigorating Nutrient for BRAIN
FAG, DEPRESSION, LASSITUDE.
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6s. 6d. per inch.							

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40	3 0	8 6	16 0

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POSITIONS VACANT.

DOMESTIC ASSISTANT WANTED, not under 20; small farm house; trustworthiness and cleanliness essential; many privileges.—Chapman, Mill House, Standon, Herts.

ADY, trained Nurse, capable and good organiser, to take entire charge of Medical Nursing Home.—Box 6,807, COMMON CAUSE Office.

POSITIONS WANTED.

ADY wishes post as Companion-Housekeeper where maid is kept.—Write Miss MacPhail, 10, Oakfield Terrace, Glasgow, W.

ADY wishes to recommend her Housekeeper (with little boy) for position of trust. Exceptional capabilities; good plain cook, would take entire charge of household; salary £40.—Apply Box 6,825, COMMON CAUSE Office.

(Continued on page 228)

For Dyspeptics

and in convalescence, whenever "special feeding" is required, there is a case for Benger's Food. It forms with milk a dainty and delicious food cream, which in preparation, becomes automatically made suitable for the weakest digestion.



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"I cannot give your Food a better test than to say that I am a dyspeptic myself. I find it extremely useful and at the same time palatable."

Benger's Food is sold in tins by Chemists, etc., everywhere, price 1/-, 1/6, 2/6, 3/- & 10/-.

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Continued from page 227

FOR INFANT WELFARE.

MARLBOROUGH SCHOOL OF MOTHER CRAFT.
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